



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-2889, **Agenda Item #:** 26.

9/30/2021

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Parks and Recreation Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to accept and appropriate \$50,000 in grant funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities to provide funding for the Digital Humanities Advancement Grant for the Creating Community: A Geographical Approach to Inclusive History at Oakwood Cemetery project.

Lead Department

Parks and Recreation Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$50,000 is available from the National Endowment for the Humanities. A City funding match is not required. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

September 17, 2015 - Council approved Resolution No. 20150917-039, which approved the Historic Cemeteries Vision Plan, on a 10-0 vote with Council Member Zimmerman abstaining. The Resolution requires the Parks and Recreation Department to provide information to the public about municipal cemeteries and burials.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Digital Humanities Advancement Grants program supports innovative, experimental, and computationally challenging digital projects at different stages of their lifecycles, from early start-up phases through implementation and sustainability. Experimentation, reuse, and extensibility are valued in this program, leading to work that can scale to enhance scholarly research, teaching, and public programming in the humanities. The program also supports scholarships that examine the history, criticism, and philosophy of digital culture or technology and its impact on society.

The grant provides up to \$50,000 for the project, "Creating Community: A Geographical Approach to Inclusive History at Oakwood Cemetery" (NEH HAA-281028-21), to create an interactive 3D model of the historic "Colored Grounds" at Oakwood Cemetery, showing the existing monuments and presumed locations of unmarked graves. The map will use the emerging technology of photography with lidar. The requested grant amount will fund two consultants, one architectural historian and one historic preservationist. Additionally, the grant will provide partial funding for three temporary exhibit assistants and one temporary IT GIS analyst through the two-year grant period, September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2023.

Council action will enable the Parks and Recreation Department to implement the project and meet the requirements outlined in the grant agreement, while adhering to the recommendations of the Historic

Cemeteries Vision Plan.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, the Parks and Recreation Department's need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability, Health and Environment, Culture and Lifelong Learning, Government that Works for All.